

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 5, 2003.

Paula F. Durr  
Name of Person Mailing

  
Signature of Person Mailing

P&G Case AA602M

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of :  
Ryo Minioguchi, et al. : Confirmation No.  
Serial No. To Be Assigned : Group Art Unit  
Filed September 5, 2003 : Examiner

For Absorbent Article Including Airlaid Mixture Material Containing Thermoplastic Fibers  
Treated with Phosphate Ester or Sulfate Ester

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, record is being made below in a Form PTO/SB08 of documents which the Patent Office may wish to consider in connection with examination of the above-identified patent application. It is respectfully requested that the cited documents be carefully considered by the Examiner and made of record in this case. As provided in §1.97(g), no representation is made or intended that a thorough art search was made. As provided in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(h), this Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission of any kind, and specifically is not an admission that the documents listed on attached form PTO/SB08 are, or are considered to be, material to the patentability of the above-identified patent application, as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

1.  37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(1) - U.S. Direct (within 3-months of filing a regular application or converted provisional)

This information disclosure statement, submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(1), is being filed within three months of the filing date of a national application. Therefore, no fee is believed to be due.

2.  37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(2) - Via PCT (within 3 mo. of Nat'l Stage Entry)

This information disclosure statement, submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(2), is being filed within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application. Therefore, no fee is believed to be due.

3.  37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(3) - (>3 mo. after filing direct or nat'l stage entry, but before 1<sup>st</sup> O.A.)

This information disclosure statement is being submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(3). Applicants have not received an Office Action on the merits in the present application. Therefore, no fee is believed to be due. However, in the event that this paper is crossing in the mail with a first Office Action on the merits, authorization is hereby given to charge the required fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) and 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 16-2480 in the name of The Procter & Gamble Company. A duplicate of this letter is enclosed to facilitate charging of the fee, if necessary.

**THE FOLLOWING IS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PERTAINING TO (2) OR (3) MARKED WITH AN (X) ABOVE.**

(a)  The Notification of Acceptance of this Application Under 35 U.S.C. §371 indicates that both a copy of the International Search Report and copies of the references cited therein are present in the national stage file. In accordance with MPEP §1893.03(g), it is respectfully requested that the Examiner note the consideration of these references in the first Office Action via the PTO-892 form.

(b)  The Notification of Acceptance of this Application Under 35 U.S.C. §371 indicates that a copy of the International Search Report is present in the national stage file. Copies of the references cited in that report are enclosed.

(c)  The Notification of Acceptance of this Application Under 35 U.S.C. §371 does not indicate that a copy of the International Search Report and copies of the references cited are present in the national stage file. Copies of the International Search Report and references are attached.

4.  37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(4) - (before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114)

This information disclosure statement, submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(4), is being filed with the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114.

5.  Information to be Considered with CPA Filing. This information disclosure statement is being filed with a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d).

6.  37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) with fee payment - (use after 1<sup>st</sup> Office Action & before Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance)

This information disclosure statement is being submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). Applicant(s) have not received a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (e.g., *Ex parte Quayle*) as of the date of this submission. Applicant(s) elect to pay the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p). Please charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account Number 16-2480 in the name of The Procter & Gamble Company. A duplicate copy of this letter (or a fee transmittal form) is enclosed to facilitate the charging of the fee.

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE NOTED BY THE EXAMINER:**

(1) Copies of the cited references were previously cited by or submitted to the USPTO in prior application Case No. \_\_\_\_, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. \_\_\_, filed \_\_\_. Applicants claim priority to said application under 35 U.S.C. §120. Accordingly, copies of those documents are not provided with this Statement, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d).

OR

(2) Copies of the cited foreign documents are enclosed.

OR

(3) Copies of all said documents, except document No.'s \_\_\_\_\_, were submitted and considered in parent application U.S. Patent Application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_. Applicant(s) claim priority to said application under 35 U.S.C. §120. Accordingly, copies of document No.'s \_\_\_\_\_ are not provided with this Statement, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d). Copies of document No.'s \_\_\_\_\_ are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited documents be carefully considered by the Examiner and made of record in this case.

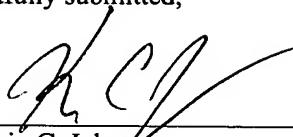
(4) Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(c), a concise explanation of the relevance of each cited reference that is not in the English language is provided.

(5) Applicants also respectfully request the Examiner to consider and make of record the copending applications listed on the attached page.

Additional information is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

By

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin C. Johnson  
Attorney or Agent for Applicant(s)  
Registration No. 35,558  
(513) 634-3849

Date: September 5, 2003

Customer No. 27752

(IDS.doc)  
(Last Revised 4/4/2003)

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

COMPLETE IF KNOWN

Application Number	To Be Assigned
Confirmation Number	To Be Assigned
Filing Date	September 5, 2003
First Named Inventor	Ryo Minoguchi, et al.
Group Art Unit	To Be Assigned
Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	AA602M

SHEET 1 of 2

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	CITE NO. <sup>1</sup>	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	PUBLICATION DATE MM-DD-YYYY	NAME OF PATENTEE OR APPLICANT OF CITED DOCUMENT	PAGES, COLUMNS, LINES WHERE RELEVANT PASSAGES OR RELEVANT FIGURES APPEAR
		US-H1698	11-04-1997	Lloyd	
		US-3,224,926	12-01-1965	Bernardin	
		US-3,314,891	04-01-1967	Schmolka	
		US-3,440,135	04-22-1969	Chung	
		US-3,556,932	01-19-1971	Coscia	
		US-3,926,816	12-16-1975	Cohen	
		US-3,929,135	12-30-1975	Thompson	
		US-3,932,209	01-13-1976	Chatterjee	
		US-3,954,721	05-04-1976	Gross	
		US-3,983,095	09-28-1976	Bashaw	
		US-4,035,147	07-12-1977	Sangenis	
		US-4,076,663	02-28-1978	Masuda	
		US-4,157,724	06-12-1979	Persson	
		US-4,264,289	04-28-1981	Day	
		US-4,278,113	07-14-1981	Persson	
		US-4,324,246	04-13-1982	Mullane	
		US-4,342,314	08-03-1982	Radel	
		US-4,352,649	10-05-1982	Jacobsen	
		US-4,353,687	10-12-1982	Nielsen	
		US-4,463,045	07-31-1984	Ahr	
		US-4,494,278	01-22-1985	Kroyer	
		US-4,609,518	09-02-1986	Curro	
		US-4,627,806	12-09-1986	Johnson	
		US-4,629,643	12-16-1986	Curro	
		US-4,640,810	02-03-1987	Laursen	
		US-4,650,409	03-17-1987	Nistri	
		US-4,654,039	03-31-1987	Brandt	
		US-4,687,478	08-18-1987	VanTillburg	
		US-4,724,980	02-16-1988	Farley	
		US-4,777,073	10-11-1988	Sheth	
		US-4,816,336	03-28-1989	Allou	
		US-4,822,453	04-18-1989	Dean	
		US-4,888,093	12-19-1989	Dean	
		US-4,898,642	02-06-1990	Moore	
		US-4,917,697	04-17-1990	Osborn, III	
		US-4,950,264	08-21-1990	Osborn, III	
		US-5,006,394	04-09-1991	Baird	
		US-5,102,597	04-07-1992	Roe	
		US-5,137,537	08-11-1992	Herron	
		US-5,164,459	11-17-1992	Kimura	
		US-5,607,414	03-04-1997	Richards	
		US-5,614,574	03-25-1997	Sheth	
		US-5,807,361	09-15-1998	Kajikawa	
		US-5,830,296	11-03-1998	Emenaker	
		US-5,916,670	06-29-1999	Tan	
		US-5,981,410	11-09-1999	Hansen	
		US-6,232,250	05-15-2001	Palumbo	
		US-6,436,855	8-20-2002	Iwata	

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		<u>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT</u>				Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>4</sup>
EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	
		JP	2001329432		11-27-2001	Chisso Corp	
		JP	06330443		11-29-1994	Maejima	

## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T <sup>4</sup>
<b>EXAMINER</b>		<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>	

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

**Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.